

# NEWSLETTER

DIVISION OF CLINICAL AND ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY

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## THE EVALUATION OF CLINICAL TRAINING PROGRAMS BY THE A.P.A. COMMITTEE ON TRAINING IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

The Newsletter reported (Vol. 2, No. 4, p. 9) the controversy concerning the publication of the ratings issuing out of the evaluation visits by the Committee on Training in Clinical Psychology at the several universities which have doctoral training programs in clinical psychology. The APA central office reports that the mail ballot of the Council of Representatives on the issue of publishing these ratings was inconclusive. The voting was on three alternatives: (A) to publish the full list of the 20 training programs approved and the 23 found insufficient by the Committee; (B) to publish only the 20 fully approved programs; (C) not to publish anything. For Alternative A there were 25 votes for and 25 votes against, 6 not voting. For Alternative B there were 7 for, 35 against, 13 not voting. For Alternative C there were 26 for and 20 against, 10 not voting.

Since the vote was inconclusive, the Board of Directors voted on the three propositions with an added proposition D to publish one list of all the 43 training programs. The vote of the Board of Directors was: Alternative A, 0 for, 8 against, 2 not voting; Alternative B, 0 for, 3 against, 2 not voting; Alternative C, 9 for, 0 against, 1 not voting; and Alternative D, 1 for, 7 against, 2 not voting.

The evaluation and ratings of the Committee on Training in Clinical Psychology will thus not be published. This decision of the Board of Directors touches most closely on the interests of clinical psychology and the Division of Clinical and Abnormal Psychology. The Executive Committee of the Division and the membership meeting of the Division will have to deal with the questions arising. Some of the questions involved are the following: Has the Board of Directors avoided responsibility in not publishing the unanimous recommendations of the APA's own Committee findings on training in clinical psychology? What effect will the postponement of the ratings of the schools have on the clinical program and more specifically on raising standards of training? Was there anything specific in procedures of the Committee on Training in Clinical Psychology to cause a considerable portion of the Council of Representatives to oppose the anticipated ratings of the training program at the different universities? In general, does the action of the Board of Directors call for any specific stand on the part of the Clinical Division and if so, what recommendations shall it make?

The officers of the Division will not be in the position at this moment to take a stand since no Executive Committee meeting nor canvassing of Executive Committee opinion has been feasible yet. It is hoped that the membership will give careful consideration to these questions and that the Executive Committee meeting at Denver and the membership meeting at Denver will give clear-cut instructions to the Divisional representatives so that they can express the Division's views at the meeting of the Council of Representatives. The Newsletter invites comment and discussion on these questions and will attempt to publish the comments.

### "THE ASSOCIATION OF PSYCHOLOGISTS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE"

Lithographed material was received by many members, and by some officers, of the Division under the heading "The Association of Psychologists in Private Practice". The material indicates that an effort is on foot to organize a division of psychologists in private practice.

This effort on the part of a group of psychologists in private practice, apparently embracing both clinical and industrial psychologists, raises several questions: Is it in the best interest of clinical psychology and of psychology at large that at the present stage of our relationships with psychiatry and medicine an association explicitly stating the private practice aspirations of psychologists appear on the scene? Are the interests of psychologists in private practice not sufficiently subserved by the various divisions of the APA to which these psychologists engaged in private practice belong? Did the psychologists engaged in private practice who are organizing this Association and attempting to attain Division status in the APA explore whether or not their interests could or could not be served sufficiently by the Committee on Private Practice (Chairman, Simon Tulchin, 30 East 60 St., New York City) of the Division of Clinical and Abnormal Psychology? Is it in the interests of clinical psychology within the APA to have a splintering off of clinical psychologists into several divisions occur?

There are many pros and cons to every one of these questions. As a matter of precedent it should be remembered that the Executive Committee was twice faced with similar questions. When the Rorschach Institute was transformed into one concerned with both Rorschach and projective techniques the desirability of such an overlapping independent organization was questioned. The question of the Division's stand toward such an organization was also raised when efforts at organizing psychoanalytically-trained psychologists was brought to the attention of the Executive Committee. In both cases the Executive Committee felt that the organization of interest groups should be considered as an expression of the internal strength of clinical psychology at large and that taking a stand in regard to such organizations is not within the scope of the Division.

The question now is whether this precedent applies to the "Association of Psychologists in Private Practice". Since this matter is likely to come up at the Council of Representatives, the Executive Committee meeting and the membership meeting at Denver will of necessity have to deal with the question in order to instruct the Division representatives. The Newsletter invites comment and discussion on this matter.

### REGIONAL MEETINGS

Newsletter Vol. 2, No. 4, p. 9, carried the report on the Eastern regional meeting. Below you will find Dr. Benton's report of the Mid-western regional meeting. Both were well attended, the discussions were lively and served to build Divisional public opinion. The Western regional meeting is yet to take place.

Midwestern Regional Meeting: "The meeting took place on May 5th at the meetings of the Mid-western Psychological Association and was attended by 100 persons. Carl R. Rogers presided.

"Carl R. Rogers, reporting for the Program Committee, described the plans of this committee for the Denver meetings, stressing particularly the important place given to symposia, demonstrations and discussion groups, in addition to the traditional papers. Mention was made of the fact that Division members have tended to propose papers rather than the newer forms of conference participation which the membership desires.

"William F. Soskin, reporting for the Committee on Examinations, stated that this committee had decided to abandon its plans to collect a pool of examination questions designed for use by a university department wishing to check the achievement of its students in terms of this nation-wide assessment device. This decision was reached because several other agencies such as ABPP and the Public Health Service are currently engaged in soliciting examination questions and it has already been noted that university and clinic personnel are reacting unfavorably to these multiple requests for examination items. Discussants from the

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audience expressed the opinion that while this might not be the time to initiate the national examinations enterprise, it remained an important and desirable project which should not be abandoned but be reserved for some more propitious future date.

"Noble H. Kelley, president-elect of the Conference of State Psychological Associations, discussed recent developments in the field of certification and licensing. He emphasized that the case of the 'M.A. psychologists' still presented an unsolved and pressing problem of certification which is extremely important. Dr. Kelley urged that all members give this admittedly complex question very careful consideration and expressed the hope that some progress toward solution of the problem could be made at the Denver meetings.

"Arthur L. Benton, reporting for the Committee on Diagnostic Devices, described the plans of this committee. A survey of clinicians' practice in regard to the utilization and interpretation of diagnostic devices is to be conducted in cooperation with the Committee on Teaching. A second project is an investigation of desirable minimal standards to be observed in the introduction of new diagnostic devices, e.g., demonstrations of alleged validity, reliability, etc. He pointed out that while it may be that the conventional measures of reliability and validity are not applicable to certain types of diagnostic devices, notably some of the projective techniques, these problems of validity and reliability were not thereby eliminated. Discussants from the audience stressed the difficulties inherent in this task of assessing such characteristics in the projective techniques and pointed out that current methods were not adequate for the task. Dr. Benton then indicated that an exploratory study designed to define the current status of the situation which would point up areas which require further development was being planned and not the promulgation of an arbitrary set of rules.

"Dr. Rogers described the present status of the questionnaire which had been circulated by the Committee on Therapy. Instead of the expected 200 - 300 replies, no less than 1300 replies were received. This gratifying large return, and the fact that many of the questions were of the 'open end' type, demands a far more extensive analysis than was anticipated."

Respectfully submitted, Arthur L. Benton

At the Denver meeting, besides the business meeting, there will be a session devoted to Divisional organization. It will be presided at by Dr. Anne Roe:

"The Role of the Member in the Functions and Activities of the Division of Clinical and Abnormal Psychology". Cosmo, Crystal Room, September 9, 1:40 p.m. It is hoped that this meeting will be well attended.

The idea of the regional meetings apparently "takes". The Newsletter received the following suggestion from Miss Mary A. White, 1 Keats Avenue, Hartsdale, New York:

"I wonder if we all wouldn't feel more loyal to the Division if it held regional one-day meetings on strictly clinical problems. In one New York area, as you know, there is a real need for such meetings two or three times a year where the clinical psychologist can discuss his problems as they change. The annual APA meeting is not adequate in my mind. I would rather see our Clinical Division do the job than any other group."

Members in the New York area are invited to communicate in this matter with the officers of the Division.

#### DIVISIONAL REPRESENTATIVES ON THE COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE APA

According to the By-Laws the APA Board of Directors establishes year by year the number of representatives for each Division. According to the information of the APA Central Office the Division has at present 1,022 members (our count is 1,063; this discrepancy is in the process of being cleared with the APA Central Office). Of these, 994 have paid their APA dues, 28 have not (2.7%); only the Division of Experimental and Consulting Psychology did slightly better. Accordingly, the Division will have 6 representatives on the Council. According to the new By-law amendment the tenure of representatives is 3 years. Two of these will be elected for one year, two for two years, and two for three terms.

OVERLAP OF MEMBERSHIP

The APA Central Office sent to us data compiled by Dr. S. C. Markey on the overlap of Divisional memberships. In the following you will find after each APA Division first the percentage of our membership which belongs to that Division and then in parenthesis the figure indicating how great a percentage this is of the membership of the other Division in question.

General Psychology	5.5	(8.4)	Physiological & Comparative	1.6	(12.6)
Teaching of Psychology	3.3	(11.7)	Consulting	10.2	(33.7)
Experimental Psychol.	6.5	(11.6)	Industrial & Business	3.4	(15.2)
Evaluation and Measur.	6.6	(13.9)	Educational Psychology	8.9	(17.4)
Childhood and Adolescence	11.8	(27.6)	Counseling & Guidance	14.7	(25.7)
Personality & Social Psychology	16.4	(27.3)	Psychologists in Public Service	2.8	(25.3)
SPSSI	10.8	(20.8)	Military Psychology	6.0	(32.2)
Esthetics	0.4	(5.0)	Maturity & Old Age	4.2	(25.0)
			School Psychologists	4.2	(38.6)

THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE 3RD QUARTER OF 1948/1949ExpendituresIncome

Expenses as of February 28	\$1,885.15	Balance as of February 28	\$1,382.89
Expenses from February 28 thru June 1 inclusive	668.25	Total receipts Assessments February 28 - June 1	415.50
Total Expenditures 1948-49	<u>\$2,553.40</u>	Total Cash received	\$1,789.39
		Less Bills paid as of June 1, 1949	668.25
		Balance	<u>\$1,130.14</u>

Miscellaneous Bills Paid  
February 28 through June 1, 1949

Executive Committee Meeting, April 4

Recording & Transcribing Minutes

\$23.29

Miscellaneous Bills Paid

Producing Newsletter #4	78.00
Multigraph paper, Newsletter #4	30.00
Expenses, Office of President	17.48
Expenses, Office of Secretary	8.20
Postage	33.00
Telephone & Telegraph	33.13
Program Committee	41.45
Private Practice Committee	11.20
Therapy Committee	75.00
Secretarial Salary, Office of President	25.00
Secretarial Salary, Office of Secretary	
March through May	292.50

Total Expenditures March through June

\$668.25

Budget

	<u>Recommended Present Budget</u>	<u>Expenses to Date</u>
Secretary half-time	\$1,320.00	\$877.50
Newsletters	1,000.00	617.45
Committee Work Expenses	700.00	290.34
Printing, Stationary, Office Supplies & Miscellaneous	500.00	91.90
Postage, Telephone & Telegraph	500.00	323.81
Executive Committee & Mid-Year Meeting	435.00	352.40

Total Expenditures  
September -- June      \$2,553.40

Payment of Assessments: Of 438 Fellows of the Division, 44 have not paid their assessments. Of 625 Associates, 122 have not paid their Division assessments.

Psychotherapy Committee Questionnaire: The problem of the finances for analyzing the Psychotherapy questionnaire is finally solved and the analysis is now in progress. Dr. Estes hopes that the Committee on Psychotherapy will be in the position to report some of the results in Denver. The analysis of the questionnaire was made possible in the following ways: (1) \$100 appropriation by the Executive Committee from the budget category allocated for Committee Work Expenses. (2) The call for voluntary contributions which brought in so far \$379.00 (3) The coverage of the residue is guaranteed by the research project on the Selection of Clinical Psychologists, conducted formerly at the University of Michigan and at present at the University of Chicago. This research project is interested in part of the data of the questionnaire and the Psychotherapy Committee decided that from the point of view of the Division there is no reason for not sharing the data in question with this research project.

The voluntary contributions came from the following members of the Division:

Bass, L. G., Benton, A. L., Billingslea, F. Y., Blanchard, P., Blos, P., Bobbitt, J., Brenman, M., Burgess, T., Challman, R., Estes, S., Fromm, E., Harris, R., Hartmann, W. J., Hunt, W. A., Ikeler, H. B., Jackson, J. C., Louttit, C., Mateer, F., Meehl, P., Mensh, I., O'Shea, H., Pennington, L., Rapaport, D., Roe, A., Rogers, C. R., Rosenzweig, S., Sargent, H., Shakow, D., Steinmayer, J., Tolman, R., Tulchin, S., Van Tuyl, M. C., Watson, R., Wechsler, D., Zucker, H.

BY-LAW CHANGES

In line with suggestions made at the last membership meeting in September, 1948, and according to the By-Laws of the Division, the following by-law changes are submitted to you. These will be voted on at the Business Meeting of the Division September 1949, in Denver.

A. That Article II, Section 2, Subsection (b), describing the qualifications for "Fellow in Clinical Psychology" be changed from "not less than four years of successful full-time clinical practice" to "not less than five years, etc."

B. That Article II, Section 2, Subsection (c), describing the qualifications for "Fellow in Abnormal Psychology" be changed from "not less than four years, etc." to "not less than five, etc." (Reason: To place Division by-laws in harmony with the APA by-laws as amended by vote of the membership of the APA. See American Psychologist, November 1948, p. 479, Item 13b)

C. That Article II, Section 6 be amended as follows:

(1) Insert the word "Division" before the word "Affiliates" and delete the phrase



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"of the Division" after the word "Affiliates" in line 1.

(2) Delete the parts of Section 6 beginning with the word "Affiliates" in line 5, including the rest of the section, through the phrase "who desire such affiliation" in line 16.

(3) Substitute for the deleted parts "Affiliates shall be persons who are competent in related fields but who either do not qualify for Association or Division membership, or do not wish such membership".

(Reason: To make our by-laws harmonize with APA by-laws.)

D. That subsection (j) be added to Article IV, Section 3, (which describes the functions of the Executive Committee) to read as follows: "When it appears necessary, appoint one or more Associate Secretaries to assist the Divisional Secretary-Treasurer in his duties. Such Associate Secretary shall be appointed for the term of the Secretary-Treasurer then in office and shall have duties falling within the usual realm of Secretary. The division of responsibilities shall be decided upon by conference of the Associate with the Secretary-Treasurer." (Reason: The heavy burden of work now falling on the secretary-Treasurer must be lightened. The suggested procedure was experimentally tried out on the basis of Executive Committee and membership recommendation and found satisfactory.)

E. That a subsection(c) be added to Article V. Section 2 on Nominations, to read as follows: (c) in preparing the list of nominations for Secretary, the Committee shall consider for inclusion as nominees the name(s) of the then serving Associate Secretary or Secretaries. (Reason: In order to encourage continuity and take advantage of the training acquired by the Associate Secretary).

F. That Article VII, Section 3, shall be changed to read as follows:

(3) "The Committee on Membership shall consist of five members: a member of the Executive Committee who shall serve as chairman, and four other members. The chairman shall serve only during his term on the Executive Committee. The other members shall serve for periods of three years. In order to provide for staggered terms during the first year in which this by-law is in effect, one member shall be elected for one year, one for two years, and two for three years." (Note: This staggering plan will provide for future election of one member for each of two years and two members every third year, all for three-year terms.)

(Reason: To maintain continuity in policy and distribute the heavy burden of work carried by this Committee. The present By-Laws call for a membership of three serving 2-year terms).

#### COMMITTEE ON DIAGNOSTIC DEVICES

"Our Committee is studying the problem of the application of statistical techniques to data obtained by means of projective methods. A number of psychologists feel that the conventional methods of testing validity and reliability are not appropriate for such data. Some suggest that new statistical techniques be devised. Because of the significance of this problem, it will be presented for discussion at the APA meeting in Denver. As a member of the Diagnostic Devices Committee I have been asked to gather ideas about proposed, planned, in-progress or completed research in this area. This Committee would appreciate very much your comments or any suggestions you may make, including references to relevant material published or otherwise available."

Ivan N. Mensh  
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St. Louis, Missouri